



**Pathway 2
Year 9**

ENGLISH: *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

Term Summer 1 + 2

Learning Intention: The aim of this unit is for all students to have the opportunity to explore the theme of actions and consequences and independent decision-making through study of the play ‘Macbeth’. This module will allow students to explore in role as well as relate the experience of character/s to situations in their own lives. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to gain knowledge of modern theatres and contrast them with theatres and theatre practices 400 years ago as well as begin to explore notions related to how ‘actors’ tell a story to an ‘audience’. Students should also have the opportunity to share previously gained knowledge on good and bad witches. Additionally, through drama work students should gain knowledge and understanding of basic communication skills; body language, tone of voice, facial expression. Throughout this unit, students will be supported to reflect on themes important for their development into young adults, the world beyond school and the transition to Key Stage 4.

Key themes:

- Taking personal responsibility - actions and consequences.
- Telling a story through a play – writer, actors and audience.
- Establishing context – King/Queen and the idea of royalty.

Key knowledge that should be learned during this SoW

Concept:

Develop understanding of actions and consequences linked to the storyline and own experience e.g. telling lies, how we feel when we do bad things and importance of making our own decisions. Build understanding of what a theatre is including ‘writer’, ‘actor’ and the job of telling a story to an audience. How to work positively with others in drama-related activities including the understanding the terms ‘actor’ and ‘character’. Build understanding of life 400 years ago and the playwright William Shakespeare. Develop understanding of the importance of expressing a personal opinion and listening with respect to others.

Knowledge:

Through discussion, a range of adapted texts and drama tasks, students will have developed ideas about the main themes, characters and story sequence of *Macbeth*. Students will have built understanding of what a theatre is and knowledge of the terms ‘actor’, ‘character’, ‘writer’, ‘audience’ making some links to Shakespeare and theatres 400 years ago. Particular focus will have been given to discussion of key PSHE themes appropriate to the students in preparation for the transition to Key Stage 4. Students will have strengthened their knowledge of the world beyond school by learning about the modern royal family and jobs related to the theatre and running a royal palace.

Key Skills:

In completing this unit, with support, all students will

Acquire an understanding of

- the concept of ‘King/Queen’ researching some basic information about Queen Elizabeth II [If possible to include a visit to Windsor or Buckingham Palace.]
- theatres and theatre practices 400 years ago. [If possible to include a visit to The Globe Theatre.]
- what a modern theatre looks like (main areas; stage, back stage, audience, seating, ticket office, refreshment area) through a visit to a local theatre linked to the World of Work.
- key events and characters in ‘Macbeth’ using a simplified picture text, Shakespeare4kidz DVD and drama work.
- the main prediction made for Macbeth making a link with events in the story.

Experienced

- taking part in rehearsing and then performing either a key scene or story linked to the theme of the play.
- working as part of a team to prepare food for a ‘banquet’.
- researching information on Scotland focusing on music and dance [preparation for the banquet scene].
- making a prop to be used in a drama task.

Demonstrated the ability to

- take part in a discussion about the idea of good and bad witches in stories sharing prior knowledge.
- complete a character profile sheet for at least one key character.
- explore in character focusing on how the witches speak in the play, using movement to support feeling the rhythm of their words [using the Shakespeare4kidz DVD].
- identify and speak some of the rhyming couplets in the witches’ spell for Macbeth.
- write and perform their own spell in character as one of the witches.
- take part in a discussion about food that could be served at a ‘banquet’.
- write a menu for the ‘banquet’.
- write in character re-telling an important event in the story.

Extension Work:

- discuss a range of posters for plays [Link to local theatre visit] then design a poster for their play.

Language and/or

Key Words:

Shakespeare
soldier
loyal

Technical Language:

play
theatre

<p>communication skills:</p>	<p>king/Queen royal Lord [Thane] rule witch ambition prediction appearance personality point of view team work</p>	<p>writer actor character audience stage costume props working in character [role] script first person [writing] descriptive detail e.g. size, colour, emotion</p>
<p>Curricular Links</p>	<p><u>Key Cross-curricular links:</u> Maths - addition, chronology of time. History - life 400 years ago inc. theatres and theatre practices. Modern History - Kings & Queens, P.S.H.E. - decision making; actions and consequences. R.E.: Beliefs linked to society 400 years ago [royalty, witches] and modern times. Geography: Scotland, local area + London - visit to The Globe contrasted with visit to local modern theatre. Drama – working in character using body language, voice and facial expression, staging a scene. I.T. taking photographs to record visits, making a poster. World of Work: Range of jobs in the theatre; jobs running a royal household/hospitality sector.</p>	